[29th March 1961

Ramanathapuram district.

75 Sangili Naicker's choultry, Virudhunagar, Sattur taluk, Ramanathapuram district.

76 V. R. Chatram, Dhanushkodi, Ramanathapuram taluk and district.

77 Chatram at Madagupatty, Sivaganga, taluk. Ramanathapuram district.

78 Annadhana chatram. Kunnakudi, Tiruppattur taluk, Ramanathapuram district.

79 Annachatram, Kaliakoil village, Sivaganga taluk, Rama. nathapuram district.

Madurai district.

80 Endowments created by late Muthukaruppan Chettiar, Vadapudupatti village, Periyakulam taluk, Madurai district.

81 Charitable Endowments created by Srimathi K. Meenakshi Ammal, Chinnamanur, Periakulam taluk, ;Madurai district.

82 Sri R. N. Ramachariar Dharmam, Madurai town and taluk and district.

APPENDIX VI

[Vide answer to starred question No. 1179, asked by Sri P. G. Manickam at the meeting of the Legislative Assembly held 29th March 1961, page 365 supra.]

DECISION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, MINISTRY OF WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY THE FOURTH HOUSING MINISTERS' CONFERENCE HELD AT HYDERABAD IN NOVEMBER 1959.

Quantum of loan (*Recommendation* 28).—The Conference recommended that the maximum amount of loan admissible under the Village Housing Projects Scheme should be Rs. 2,500 or 50 per cent of the estimated cost of the house, whichever is less.

It had also, however, been separately represented to this Ministry by some State Governments during the course of discussions at the regional meetings of Housing Secretaries organized in September–October 1959, that the average villager found it difficult to contribute 50 per cent of the cost of construction of a house, from his own resources and that the unskilled labour (which he or his family members could normally provide) did not amount to more than 30 per cent of the cost. It was, therefore, suggested that the amount of loan assistant should be raised to 2/3rds of the cost of the house.

29th March 1961]

Government of India have, after a careful consideration of the matter, decided that the loan assistance admissible under the Scheme should be raised from 50 per cent to 66·2/3 per cent of the cost of construction of the house (inclusive of the cost of land in cases where villages in flood-affected areas are rebuilt on new sites), subject to the conditions that the amount of the loan shall be in no case exceed Rs. 2,000 (instead of Rs. 1,500 as hitherto).

Loans for improvement of houses (Recommendation 29)—(*a*) The Government of India agree with the Recommendation of the Conference that the Village Housing Project Scheme should be modified so as to enable the State Governments to utilize up to 15 per cent of the loan allocated to them for a year under this Scheme, for the grant of loans for the improvement of houses in the villages selected under the Scheme, to such standards as may be specified by the State Governments. This is, however, subject to the conditions that—

(1) Loans shall be granted for effecting such improvements only as call for substantial expenditure. (For example, enlargement of living accommodation, construction of kitchen, store, cattle-shed, latrine, re-flooring, re-roofing, provision of doors, windows and ventilators, etc.); and

(2) No loans shall be granted for improvement of houses—

(i) which are likely to be demolished on the basis of the layout plan drawn up for the village (as suggested by the Conference); or

(ii) which do not figure at all in the layout plan.

(*b*) The limit of 15 per cent specified above is considered necessary in order to ensure that the basic objective of re-planning the village to secure environmental hygiene and essential services, is not relegated to the background.

Provision of roads and drains (*Recommendation* 30).—It is regretted that it has not been possible to accept the Recommendation of the Conference that Government of India should bear 50 per cent of the cost of provision of roads and drains in selected villages as outright subsidy, and that the State Governments should be permitted to utilize a part of their allocation under the Village Housing Projects Scheme for this purpose. The question as to whether any subsidy could be provided for the purpose during the Third Plan period, will, however, receive due attention in connection with the formulation of the Third Five-Year plan. Efforts should be made to provide the necessary community facilities and civic amenities in the selected villages to the maximum extent possible with the help of funds available under the schematic budget of the Blocks concerned, duty supplemented by funds for the specific purposes available with various Ministers concerned with different aspects of rural development.

[29th March 1961

Subsidy for housing of landless agricultural labour (*Recommendation* 31).—The Conference recommended that landless agricultural labour who do not get any housing aid from any other source, should be allowed a subsidy, to the extent of at least 15 per cent of the cost of the house by the Government of India and that in the alternative, they should be provided free of cost, with an open developed plot of land on which they could themselves put up a suitable hut. It is regretted that the Government of India have not found it possible to accept this Recommendation. The question of integrating the programmes undertaken by State Governments under the Settlement Scheme of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (under which the expenditure incurred on the provision, *inter alia*, of tenements for landless agricultural labour settled on waste land would be shared by the Central Government and State Government concerned) with the Village Housing Projects Scheme has, however, been reviewed. As the main object of the Resettlement Scheme is to resettle labour on waste land, where there may be very little or no population, and as it is also not necessary that all the Resettlement Schemes should provide for housing, the Ministry of Food and Agriculture are of the view that it may not always be possible for the State Governments to integrate their programmes under these two Schemes. The State Governments should, however, endeavour to do so wherever possible.

Continuance of Research-cum-Training Centres (*Recommendation* 32).—The Government of India accept the Recommendation of the Conference that the Research-*cum*-Training Centres already set up under the Village Housing Projects Scheme should be continued during the Third Five-Year Plan and that they should be strengthened adequately to enable them to continue work on rural housing relating to research, training and extension on an appropriate scale. Proposals for strengthening the existing Centres or adding to their list, can, however, be considered only in the Third Five-Year Plan.

Assistance for Rural Housing Cells (*Recommendation* 33). The Conference recommended that in the case of States with larger rural populations the quantum of Central assistance for State Rural Housing Cells should be raised to Rs. 50,000. It has accordingly been decided to grade the States into three categories for the purpose of Central assistance for State Rural Housing Cells on the basis of the number of villages allocated for the Second Plan period. Subject to the other terms and conditions already in force, the maximum Central assistance permissible to different States for this purpose will be as follows with effect from the current financial year :—

Names of States.	*Maximum central assistance per year.*
(1)	(2)
	Rs.
(1) States with a second Plan allocation of villages not exceeding 200 (Assam, Jammu and Kashmir, Kerala, Orissa, Punjab and Rajasthan.	35,000

29th March 1961]

Name of States, (1)	*Maximum central assistance per year.* (2)
	Rs.
(2) States with a second Plan allocation of villages from 201 to 450 (Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Madras, Mysore and West Bengal).	40,000
(3) State with a second Plan allocation of villages exceeding 450 (Bihar and Uttar Pradesh).	50,000

Note.—Financial Assistance for Rural Housing Cells of the newly formed States of Maharashtra and Gujarat will depend upon the actual distribution between them of the villages allocated to the former Bombay State for the Second Plan period.

Villages in Tribal areas (Recommendation No. 34). The Conference recommended that when selecting villages under the Scheme, the State Governments should select an adequate number of villages in the scheduled areas provided other conditions laid down in the Scheme are satisfied. This is intended for action by State Government. (The Madras Government have issued instructions to Superintending Engineer, Rural Housing Cell, that this recommendation may be kept in view while selecting villages for implementation of the Village Housing Projects Scheme).

TRUTH ALONE TRIUMPHS